

REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed on **13 December 2007**, the Examiner reviewed claims 1-4, 6-12, 14-20, and 22-24. Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6-12, 14-20 and 22-24 under 35 U.S.C § 102(b) based on Kwok Hung Lau (U.S. Pat. No. 7,080,088, hereinafter “Lau”).

Interview Summary

In response to the interview conducted on **5 February 2008**, please find a Summary of Record of Interview below.

Identification of Claims and Prior Art Discussed

Applicant and Examiner discussed Lau as applied to independent claims 1, 9, and 17 of the instant application.

Applicant's Arguments

The prior art does not disclose a method where the metadata is data about a series of **classes**, **associations**, and **attributes** about the data itself.

Outcome of Interview

Examiner pointed out that Lau FIG 1 includes repository metadata 122 that could include classes, associations, and attributes about the data itself.

Interview Summary

In response to the interview conducted on **14 February 2008**, please find a Summary of Record of Interview below.

Identification of Claims and Prior Art Discussed

Applicant and Examiner discussed Lau as applied to independent claims 1, 9, and 17 of the instant application.

Applicant's Arguments

The prior art does not disclose a method to convert metadata associated with the second version of the database object so that the metadata is compatible with the first version of the database object.

Outcome of Interview

Examiner pointed out that Lau C7:L3-4 discloses converting metadata.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6-12, 14-20, and 22-24 as being anticipated by Lau. Applicant respectfully disagrees. In Lau the first version of the database object and the second version of the database object do not include other objects that have been captured using UML and stored in the database during design time.

Lau does disclose a database object, but that is either relational, object-oriented, or a set of flat files (Lau, C1:L27-28). In contrast, the Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a general-purpose **modeling** language that includes a graphical notation used to create an abstract model of a system (see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unified_Modeling_Language). Thus, UML can be used to specify objects such as a relational database, an object-oriented database, or a flat file, but UML is **not** itself a relational database, an object-oriented database, or a flat file. In Lau, the database object is either relational, object-oriented, or a set of flat files.

In contrast, in embodiments of the present invention the first version of the database object and the second version of the database object include other objects that have been captured using UML and stored in the database during design time (instant application, [0027]).

Nothing within Lau suggests or implies that the first version of the database object and the second version of the database object include other objects that have been captured using UML and stored in the database during design time.

Accordingly, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 9, and 17 to clarify that the first version of the database object and the second version of the database object includes other objects that have been captured using UML and stored in the database during design time. These amendments find support in instant application, [0027].

Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 9, and 17 as presently amended are in condition for allowance. Applicant also submits that claims 2-4 and 6-8, which depend upon claim 1, claims 10-12 and 14-16, which depend upon claim 9, and claims 18-20 and 22-24, which depend upon claim 17, are for the same reasons in condition for allowance and for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the present application is presently in form for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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